

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 remain pending in the application. In the Official Action, the Examiner rejected all of the claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,721,355 B1 to *McClennon* et al. ("*McClennon*"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,457,131 B2 to *Kuemerle* ("*Kuemerle*"). For the reasons set forth below, Applicant respectfully submits that the presently pending claims are patentably distinguished over the combination of *McClennon* and *Kuemerle*. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Presently pending claim 1 recites a method of controlling power supplies of a device connected to a network, the device having a first communication process unit for executing a communication process in an asynchronous mode, and a second communication process unit for executing a communication process in a synchronous mode. The first and second communication process units each have a power supply. The first communication process unit has one power supply, a "second" power supply. The second communication process unit has another power supply, a "first" power supply.

As also recited in claim 1, the first power supply is controlled independently of the second power supply. Stated another way, the power supply of the second (synchronous mode) communication process unit is controlled independently of the power supply of the first (asynchronous mode) communication process unit.

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of *McClennon* and *Kuemerle* neither teaches nor suggests the presently claimed method. *McClennon* neither teaches nor suggests a first communication process unit for executing communication in an asynchronous communication mode, AND a second communication process unit for executing communication in a synchronous communication mode. *McClennon* merely teaches one

modem which communicates isochronously and asynchronously, using ATM (Asynchronous Transfer Mode) protocol, for example, and IP (Internet Protocol) as an example of asynchronous mode communication. However, *McClennon* does not teach or suggest that the modem includes a first communication process unit (for asynchronous communication) and a second communication process unit (for synchronous communication). Rather, *McClennon* describes one communication process unit capable of communicating either synchronously or asynchronously. Moreover, *McClennon* neither teaches nor suggests a device having different power supplies belonging to individual communication process units and assigned to asynchronous and synchronous mode communications.

Moreover, *McClennon* neither teaches nor suggests controlling a first power supply of a first communication unit independently from a second power supply. *McClennon* merely teaches a modem which is capable of going between a quiescent low-power state and a higher power state. *McClennon* merely teaches controlling an amount of power provided to the modem, nothing more. There is no teaching in *McClennon* from which one could reasonably conclude the existence of two power supplies as claimed in claim 1, one power supply belonging to and utilized by a first (asynchronous) communication process unit, and another power supply belonging to and utilized by a second (synchronous) communication process unit.

In addition, *Kuemerle* does not supply the teachings which *McClennon* lacks with regard to the invention recited in claim 1. *Kuemerle* neither teaches nor suggests communication process units. *Kuemerle* merely describes a computer including an arrangement of parallel execution pipelines, each having a power supply. For example, FIG. 5 of *Kuemerle* illustrates parallel execution pipelines 172, 174 of an arithmetic logic unit (ALU), one pipeline supplying an adder, the other pipeline supplying a

multiplier. (col. 5, lns. 55-57). Nothing in *Kuemerle* teaches or suggests that the parallel execution units are differentiated from each other based on execution of synchronous and asynchronous communication modes of a communication process. Moreover, both such pipelines operate asynchronously. In another embodiment, reference is made to a system in which both execution pipelines operate synchronously. (See col. 10, lns. 13-56). However, none of these units execute a communication process in a *synchronous communication* mode, or in an *asynchronous communication* mode. Rather, each unit in *Kuemerle* is merely described as an instruction pipeline execution unit, not specific to executing synchronous or asynchronous communication. The amount of power supplied to each unit is controlled in *Kuemerle* by the amount of time required to execute different instructions, not based on whether a synchronous or asynchronous mode of a communication process is executed by the particular unit, as in the claimed invention. Thus, nothing in *Kuemerle* teaches or suggests that the parallel execution units include a *first* communication process unit for executing a communication process in an *asynchronous communication mode* and a *second* communication process unit for executing a communication process in a *synchronous communication mode*. In addition, nothing in *Kuemerle* teaches or suggests controlling a first power supply to execute the communication process in the synchronous communication mode, as recited in claim 1. Hence, Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of *McClennon* and *Kuemerle* neither teaches nor suggests the recited features of claim 1. Moreover, claims 11, 13, and 22, which contain similar recitations, are also neither taught nor suggested by *McClennon* and *Kuemerle*, for the reasons discussed above.

Moreover, neither *McClennon* nor *Kuemerle* teaches or suggests the features claimed in claim 2 of turning off a first

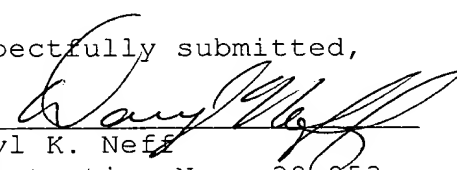
power supply (of the synchronous communication mode unit), when the synchronous mode is not being executed; in claim 4, of time division of data transmitted in synchronous and asynchronous communication modes on the same bus line; in claim 5, in which a power supply is controlled on the basis of a plug setting; in claims 7-10 in which a power supply is controlled on the basis of an event as recited therein. These arguments also apply to claims 12, 14-20 and 23, these claims containing similar recitations.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been fully met, favorable reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason it is believed that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicant's attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections the Examiner might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

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Respectfully submitted,

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